Global Food Losses and Food Waste

1.3 billion ton (1 300 000 000 000 kg)



Agriculture and Consumer Protection
Department

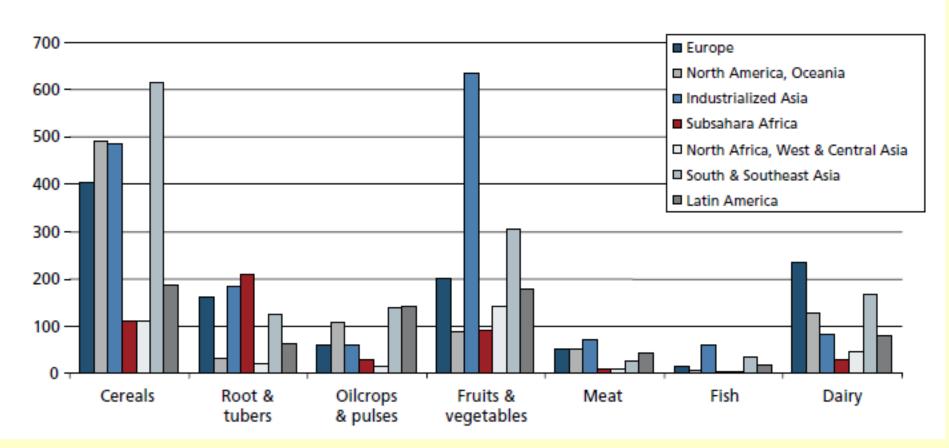


Robert van Otterdijk Food technologist FAO Agro-industry officer Rural infrastructure & agro-industries Division 25 years work on Postharvest loss reduction and Prevention of food losses

- 1. Extent of food losses and waste
- 2. Causes and prevention of food losses and waste
- 3. FAO food loss reduction strategy and programme

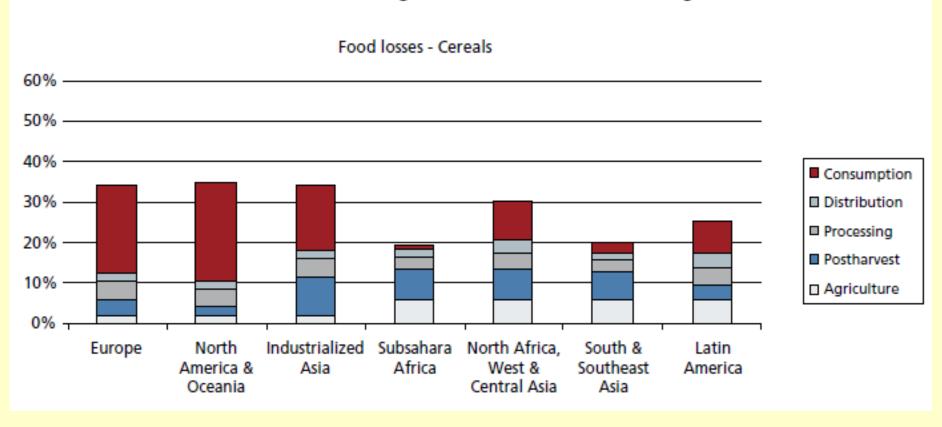
1. Extent of food losses and waste

Figure 1. Production volumes of each commodity group, per region (million tonnes)



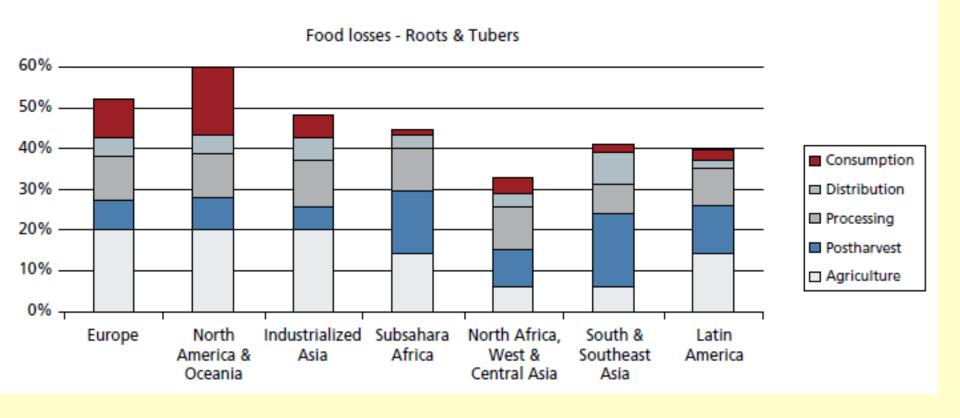
1. Extent of food losses and waste CEREALS

Figure 3. Part of the initial production lost or wasted, at different FSC stages, for cereals in different regions

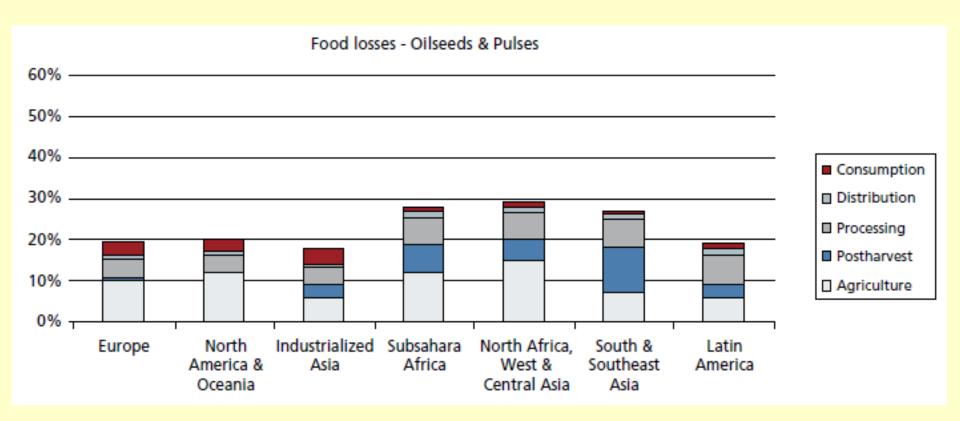


1. Extent of food losses and waste - ROOTS & TUBERS

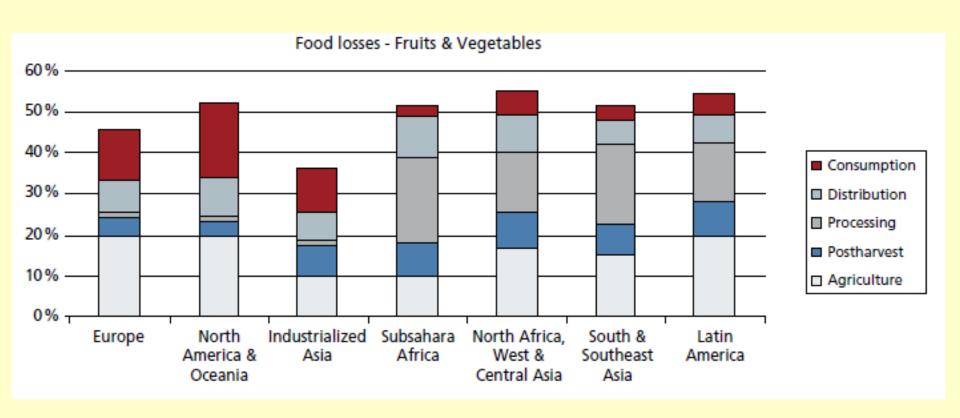
Figure 4. Part of the initial production lost or wasted at different stages of the FSC for root and tuber crops in different region



1. Extent of food losses and waste - OILSEEDS & PULSES

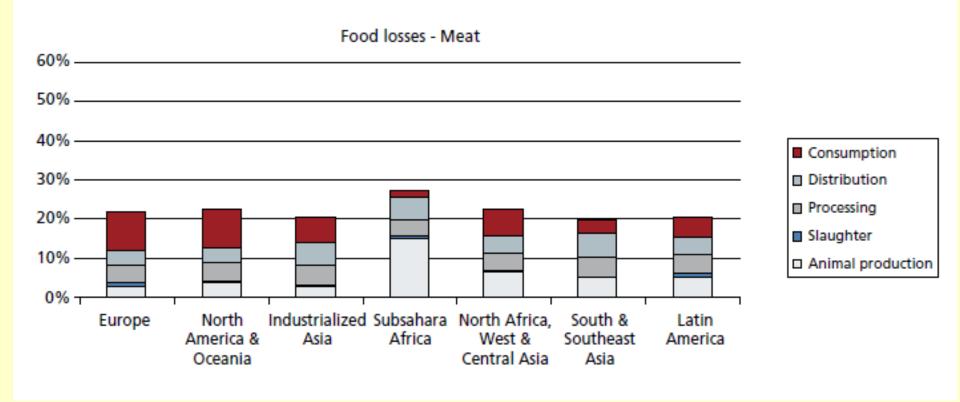


1. Extent of food losses and waste - FRUITS & VEGETABLES



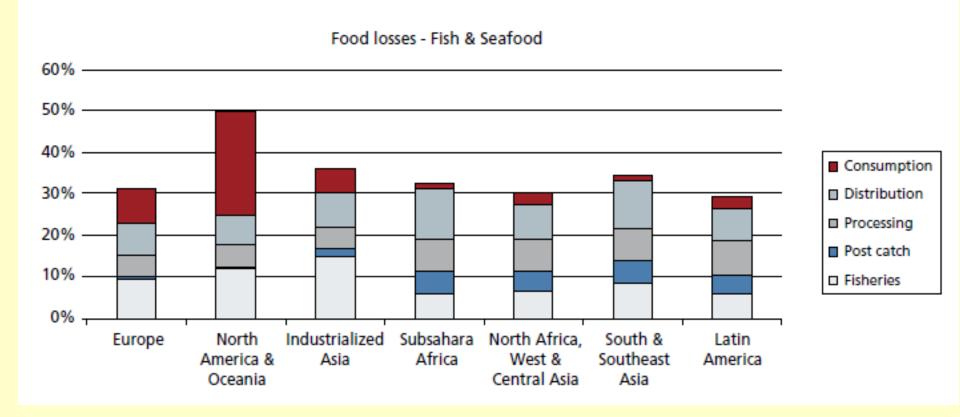
Extent of food losses and waste - MEAT PRODUCTS

Figure 7. Part of the initial production lost or wasted for meat products at different stages in the FSC in different regions



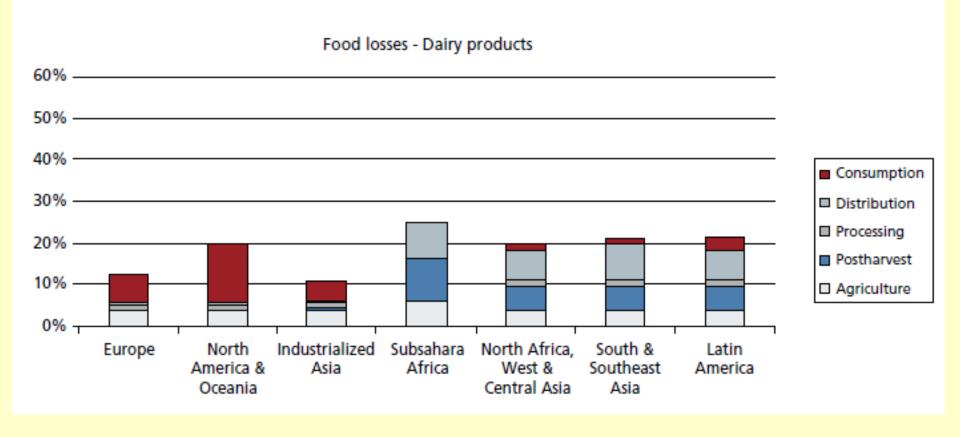
1. Extent of food losses and waste - FISH & SEAFOOD

Figure 8. Part of the initial catchings (fish and seafood harvested) discarded, lost and wasted in different regions and at different stages in the FSC

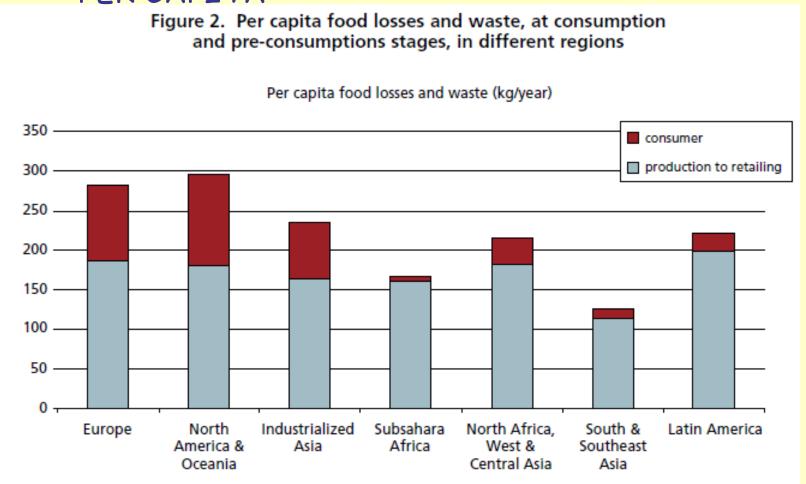


Extent of food losses and waste -DAIRY PRODUCTS

Figure 9. Part of the initial milk and diary production lost or waisted for each region at different stages in the FSC



1. Extent of food losses and waste - PER CAPITA



Food wasted at consumer level is minimal in developing countries.

In industrialized countries food gets lost when production exceeds demand.



Prevention: Communication and cooperation between farmers.

In developing countries and food may be lost due to production problems.





In developing countries and, sometimes, developed countries, food may be lost due to premature harvesting.

Prevention: Organizing small farmers and diversifying and upscaling their production and marketing.

High 'appearance quality standards' from supermarkets for fresh products lead to food waste.





Prevention: Consumer surveys by supermarkets.

Prevention: Sales closer to consumers.

Poor storage facilities and lack of infrastructure cause postharvest food losses in developing countries.





Prevention: investment in infrastructure and transportation.

Unsafe food is not fit for human consumption and therefore is wasted.



Prevention: develop knowledge and capacity of food chain operators to apply safe food handling practices.

'Disposing is cheaper than using or re-using' attitude in industrialized countries leads to food waste.





Prevention: develop markets for 'sub-standard' products.



Lack of processing facilities causes high food losses in developing countries.

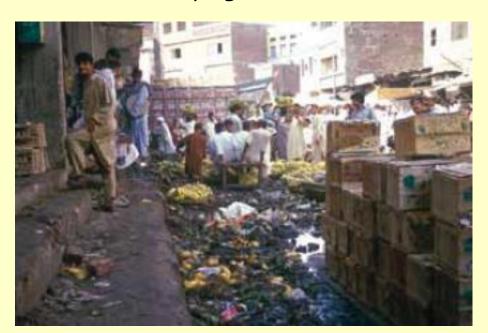


Prevention: improve investment climate for agro-industry

Prevention: develop contract farming linkages between processors and farmer

Large quantities on display and a wide range of products/ brands in supply lead to food waste in industrialized countries.

Inadequate market systems cause high food losses in developing countries.





Prevention: Marketing cooperatives and improved market facilities.

Abundance and consumer attitudes lead to high food waste in industrialized countries.

Prevention: Public awareness.



Taking into account:

- Social and cultural suitability
- Value chain approach
- Feasibility and profitability
- Policy and strategy
- Awareness creation and information dissemination
- Sustainable production and consumption



The technical elements:

- Infrastructure and technology
- Agro-industries development
- Food handling, packing and logistics
- Innovative financing mechanisms



Partnerships:



Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

- the effect of food waste and losses on food prices
- quantifying the causes and analysing the solutions to reduce losses, a regional approach
- safety and quality management issues as they affect food losses

Raising awareness on global food losses and food waste

- media campaign
- regional 'Save Food' congresses

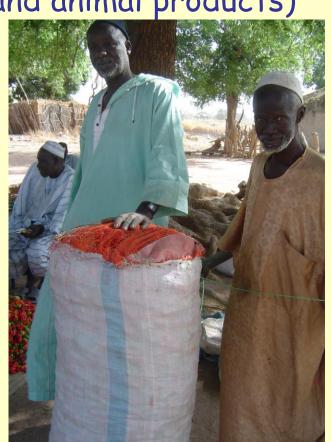
Strategies and priorities for reducing food losses all along value chains

- national and regional food loss reduction strategies
- institutional capacity development
- food loss reduction (investment) programmes

Practices and methodologies to reduce food losses

- agricultural production (crops and animal products)

- dry and cold storage
- food packaging solutions



http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ags/publications/GFL_web.pdf

THANK YOU



